

Our Future Is At Stake



Facts to Consider Concerning Ohio's Foreign Language Programs

The Ohio Foreign Language Association

**Sarah Shackelford - Political Advocacy Chair
Executive Vice-President**

Roslyn M. Terek - Vice-President for Public Relations

Before A Decision Is Made



I Want **You**

to communicate

with your neighbors

Learn a foreign language

“Knowing other languages and understanding other cultures is a 21st. Century skill set for American students as they prepare to live and work in a global society.”

– Martha Abbott, Director of Education

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

Ohio Has A Plan For Foreign Language Study

**Access Ohio's Roadmap
hosted on OSU's Web site**

**[http://chineseflagship.osu.edu/ohiolanguagesummit/
LanguageSummitReport.pdf](http://chineseflagship.osu.edu/ohiolanguagesummit/LanguageSummitReport.pdf)**

**Access Ohio's Plan for World Languages
hosted on the ODE Website**

**[http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/
/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1701&C
ontentID=27383&Content=63067](http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=1701&ContentID=27383&Content=63067)**

Ohio's Language Roadmap for the 21st. Century

Executive Summary

<http://madameshackelford.com/ohiolanguageroadmap.pdf>

- Establish an Ohio Language and Culture Service Center (LCSC)
- Organize Language Partnering for Life (LPL)
- Create extending sequences of foreign language study
- Train, license and employ more teachers educated in the use of technology and develop networked programs around these qualified teachers
- Create performance-based tools for assessing foreign language learners' ability to communicate effectively

Columbus Summit on Educating Ohio's Global Talent

November 24, 2008

“How well do the action steps in the strategic plan meet the needs for international education in Central Ohio?”

The two most frequently mentioned were:

- **Language related concerns including the need to begin instruction early, development of language expertise for use in scientific or business settings and funding for language programs.**
- **Intercultural understanding including appreciation of diversity, sensitivity, awareness of cultural norms and ability to collaborate across cultures; and funding for language programs**

Strategic Plan For International Education in Ohio

Ohio International Education Advisory Committee

Goals Fall 2008

- 1. Ohio citizens will understand the global context and diversity of relationships among themselves, their communities and the world.**
- 2. Ohio educators will deliver global content as a component of a world-class education and will create systems to support it.**
- 3. Students will become global thinkers with 21st. Century skills, so they can think critically and creatively across disciplines, manage complexity, embrace technology and value diversity.**
- 4. Ohio citizens will achieve greater economic prosperity and improved quality of life.**

Strategic Plan For International Education in Ohio

- **In the US, Ohio ranks eighth among the states in exports.**
- **If Ohio were a separate country, it would have the 25th. Largest economy in the world.**
- **Over one-half million Ohio jobs are dependent on exports and foreign investments in Ohio.**
- **Ohio's major trading partners are Canada, Mexico and Japan.**
- **China is a growing market for Ohio goods.**
- **More than 1,000 companies in Ohio are internationally owned, representing 28 different countries around the world.**

Key Points for Foreign Language Study

- **Children in foreign language programs have tended to demonstrate greater cognitive development, creativity, and divergent thinking than monolingual children.**
- **Studies also show that learning another language enhances the academic skills of students by increasing their abilities in reading, writing, and mathematics.**

Key Points for Foreign Language Study

- **Listening Skills:**

Enhance listening skills and memory, contributing a significant additional dimension to the concept of communication.

- **Reading Skills:**

Students of second languages are thought to improve their reading comprehension in the native language and also score higher in reading achievement.

- **Higher Scores:**

a positive correlation between SAT scores and the study of foreign languages

Key Points for Foreign Language Study

- **Cultural Pluralism:**

Children who have studied a foreign language develop a sense of cultural pluralism, openness to and appreciation of other cultures.

- **Career Development:**

The Nebraska Foreign Language Frameworks (1996) states that learning a foreign language provides a competitive edge in career choices in today's and tomorrow's world.

Key Points for Foreign Language Study

- **Global Economy:**

One out of every six production jobs in the U.S. depends on foreign trade.

One half of the top profit making companies on Fortune Magazines "500" list are foreign owned.

Four out of five new jobs in the U.S. are created as a result of foreign trade.

Twenty million foreigners travel annually to the U.S. and spend \$8 billion.

The Facts Are Clear!

- **Ohio is second among states in manufacturing jobs tied to exports.**
- **Four out of five new jobs in the US are created through international trade.**
- **The top ten minority groups in Ohio are: Spanish, German, French, Italian, Arabic, Chinese, Polish, Pennsylvania Dutch, Russian and Greek.**

Ohio's Students Must Compete!

- **The US is seeing economic growth in countries formerly thought of as impoverished and agrarian.**
- **Ohioans are more diverse than ever before.**
- **The employment marketplace has become global.**
- **Ohio's students will be competing for jobs with others from the world not just their familiar locale.**

Give Them A Competitive Edge !

The Time To Act Is Now!

- ❖ **Consider the repercussions of losing a program!**
- ❖ **Begin to plan or to broaden a foreign language program already in place!**
- ❖ **Add a foreign language class to the current curricula.**
- ❖ **Give students the “edge” they need to face the challenges of the 21st. Century!**

Contact Information



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Sarah Shackelford **Political Advocacy Chair**
Executive Vice-President

poladvoc@ofla-online.org

Roslyn M. Terek **Vice-President for Public Relations**

vppr@ofla-online.org